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RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE THIRD SESSION OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF FORESTRY HELD AT OOTACAMUND FROM THE 12TH TO 14TH MAY 1955.

SPONSORED BY COMMITTEE No. 1 FOR TIMBER FOR INDUSTRIAL AND NATIONAL NEEDS.

ITEM No. 5.

Planning on an All-India basis the production of suitable timbers for Defence Services and other institutions of national importance.

1. The Central Board of Forestry recommends that—

(a) no tenders should be submitted by the State Forest Department against the tender notices issued by the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals and other Central Government Departments;

(b) the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals should consolidate the total requirements of all the departments and inform the State Forest Departments of their total requirements for a period of say, three years;

(c) the estimated requirements for the year should be intimated to the State Forest Departments six months in advance to enable them to ascertain the available quantities;

(d) the Heads of the State Forest Departments should meet the Director General of Supplies and Disposals so that the rates and the terms of supply may be negotiated. The rate so negotiated would apply for a period of one year at a time;

(e) the passing of timber should be done by the Forest Department officials which would be final. If, however, there happens to be any serious complaint, it should be referred to the Head of the Forest Department whose decision as the Head of the Forest Department, be conceded;

(f) in view of the fact that transport is not keeping pace with the available supplies, it is necessary that the material passed should be removed within a period of three months failing which the department will no longer be responsible for its quality. It is, however, recognized that certain species deteriorate much faster and that their removal should be arranged immediately they are passed by the Forest Department officials. If the material is not quickly despatched, the Forest Department will no longer be held responsible for deterioration which may subsequently take place;

(g) the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals will arrange payment to the extent of 75 per cent of all the materials that have been passed by the Forest Department officials against an inspection note, if the despatches are not arranged within three months. The balance would be payable as and when the material is despatched. Loading in all cases will be arranged by the State Forest Department.

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(*h*) the State Forest Departments should give some indication as to the estimated production from (1) their normal sources of supply and (2) from interior areas not yet tapped but available for supply, to enable the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals to take note of what supplies they could obtain from local sources. Save in exceptional circumstances, the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals should not import timber from abroad, and efforts should be made to utilize all the secondary timber by finding substitutes and subjecting the same to preservative treatment. The Director-General of Supplies and Disposals or his representative and the F.R.I. should examine this aspect of the problem; and

(*i*) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Bombay, should send the Bombay Timber Grading Rules to the different States and also write to the Madhya Pradesh State Forest Department to do likewise. The State Forest Department should examine these grading rules and submit their comments to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Bombay who would consolidate the Grading Rules and send them to the State Governments for their final approval. If and when they are finalized, they would be binding on all the State Forest Departments. It is, however, recognized that the Grading Rules would not be uniform for all the species but would vary according to the species or group of allied species.

ITEM No. 3.

Supply of sleepers to Railways.

2. The Central Board of Forestry recommends—

(*a*) that the State Forest Departments should send to the Railway Board their breakdown of actual cost of production plus royalty;

(*b*) that the Railway Board should, if necessary, call the State Heads of Departments for discussion and finalization of the matter in order to save delay;

(*c*) that the passing of the sleepers should be done by Forest Department officials and should be considered final;

(*d*) that the Railways should set up depots at the despatching rail heads nominated by the State Forest Departments and should accept the sleepers immediately they are passed and delivered therein. After the sleepers have been delivered, it should be the Railways' responsibility to keep watch over them.

(*e*) that 80 per cent or 100 per cent, whatever is mutually agreed upon, should be paid after the sleepers have been delivered. The balance, if any, should be paid on despatch. The despatching will be done by the Forest Department with its own labour, and the rates agreed upon would be f.o.r. despatching station; and

(*f*) that the sleepers should be graded by the Railways and their respective specifications laid down so that they may be used for various purposes such as main line sleepers, branch line sleepers, siding sleepers, etc., in order to ensure the maximum utilization of timber.

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Item No 4.

Promotion of the use of secondary timbers after seasoning and preservative treatment.

3. The Central Board of Forestry recommends—

(*a*) that the Railway should set up seasoning and preservative plants of their own at centres which would be indicated by the State Forest Departments with relevant statistics ; and

(*b*) that if the Railway is not prepared to set up preservative and seasoning plants, the State Forest Departments should work out the estimates of the cost of supply of treated and seasoned timber as well as treated sleepers in order to negotiate a long term contract with the Railway and the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals and other timber-consuming interests so that the preservative and seasoning plants may be set up by the State Governments themselves.

Item No. 6.

Rail transport facilities for Timber and Forest Produce.

4. The Central Board of Forestry recommends—

That a Sub-Committee of the Board may be set up by the Chairman from time to time to tackle this and other similar problems at the highest possible level.

The Board also recommends that a case in respect of Railway freight charges should be prepared and submitted so that the freights may be suitably adjusted to fit in with the requirements of the various industries and other consumers—because it is this single item which can sometimes make the timber very expensive and beyond the means of the consumers, both industrial and others.

SPONSORED BY COMMITTEE No. 2 (TIMBER DEVELOPMENT).

Item No. 7.

Raw Materials for Paper, Matches and Plywood Industries.

5. The Central Board of Forestry recommends that—

(1) The commendations of its Standing Committee at its meetings on 2nd/3rd August 1954, be reiterated as follows :—

The suggestions that (*a*) specific forest areas be reserved for the paper industry and long term leases be granted for working such areas, (*b*) a rational method of price fixation be adopted and (*c*) roads be developed in such forest areas to facilitate transport, are commended to the notice of State Governments.

(2) The States be requested to devise measures to ensure continuity of supplies of raw material in order to sustain and encourage the development of industries based on forest produce.

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(3) The Central Government be requested to see that, in future, mills are set up with due regard to sustained supply of raw materials.

(4) The Central Government be requested to collect overall statistics of supplies required and available for these industries.

(5) The Central Government be requested to advise States regarding scope for development of such industries, in order that the States may plan their exploitation and planting programme suitably.

ITEM No. 8.

Co-ordination of Timber Marketing.

6. The Central Board of Forestry recommends—

(1) The establishment of a Central Co-ordinating Agency for the better marketing of timber and other forest produce both internally and for export. It would undertake direct co-ordination between large purchasing departments of the Central and State Governments and the supply to(?) States. It should also undertake advertising and popularizing of timbers in the country and abroad ; and

(2) this agency would be best established under the directions of the Inspector-General of Forests.

ITEM No. 9.

Manufacture of household coke to relieve pressur on forests.

7. The Central Board of Forestry recommends that—

The Central Government be requested to set up pilot plant units (as suggested by the Fuel Research Institute) for the production of soft coke for domestic use from coal and lignite. The Central Government may also take steps to develop the increased use of alternative fuels for domestic purposes especially in areas where firewood is no longer readily available.

ITEM No. 10.

Forest resource surveys.

8. The Central Board of Forestry recommends that—

(1) Forest resource surveys may be conducted by States, in productive forest areas, to obtain full data regarding produce of known value as also of produce occurring commonly in the area. As a result of initial experience, such surveys could be extended progressively to fresh areas and less known items of forest produce as found necessary or desirable.

(2) The States may seek the advice of the Central Government regarding the technique of sampling and details of the procedure for such surveys, with specific reference to the types and features of their forests.

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(3) The Central Government may consider giving assistance to States with regard to equipment and funds for undertakings such surveys.

SPONSORED BY COMMITTEE NO. 3—PLANNING.

ITEM NO. 11.

Consideration of the recommendations of the Fourth World Forestry Congress.

9. The Central Board of Forestry endorses the recommendations of the Fourth World Forestry Congress and commends them to the State Governments, subject to the following observations:—

(i) The Central Soil Conservation Board be requested to consider the possibility of setting up a Research Station to study the problem of raising shelter belts in Rameswaram Island, and the similar areas.

(ii) The supply of plantation stock to private owners of forests should be at cost price, but technical advice should be free.

(iii) A special study of forest grazing in the country should be carried out by the Centre.

(iv) State working plans should pay special attention to the management of wild life.

(v) States should undertake special legislation to prevent the destruction of trees specially in hill stations and other hill areas, outside forests as well as in urban areas.

ITEM NO. 12.

Forestry in the Second Five-Year Plan—Staff.

10. The Central Board of Forestry approves in general the Second Five-Year Plan in respect of forestry as drafted by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and observes that having regard to the fact that the inadequate provision was made in the First Plan for the development of forests special efforts should be made to develop forests in the Second Plan Period.

The Board is also aware that there are some State Schemes which are not covered by the draft plan of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, e.g., the development of forest industries, including the minor forest products industries, the rehabilitation of degraded forest lands such as the erstwhile zamindari and panchayat forests and recommends that such schemes should be considered for inclusion in the Second Five-Year Plan.

ITEM NO. 13.

Recommendations of the meeting of the Indian Board for Wild Life held in Calcutta in January-February 1955.

(Having regard to the desirability of legislation to be enacted in various States for the creation and management of National Parks, to follow a common pattern.)

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11. The Central Board of Forestry approves the recommendation of the Indian Board for Wild Life in this respect and commends it to the State Governments.

The Board also endorses other recommendations of the Calcutta Meeting of the Indian Board for Wild Life held in January-February 1955.

Item No. 14.

Examination of important State working plans by a Central Agency.

12. The Central Board of Forestry approves the idea of entrusting to the proposed Forestry Commission the task of scrutinizing the prescriptions of working plans of States and deviations therefrom.

The Board also feels that special emphasis should be laid on evolving a procedure in scrutinizing these plans, which would avoid delays.

Item No. 15.

Production of Forest Films.

13. The Central Board of Forestry recommends that—

For 8 or 16 m.m. (smaller gauge) films, the States should have organizations of their own and that they can approach the Central Government for such financial and technical aid and assistance as they may require, but for 35 m m (bigger gauge) films the States may approach the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, who, if they are satisfied that the films proposed by the State should be taken up, will take necessary steps to produce the films through the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

The Board is also of the opinion that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, should produce such approved films as expeditiously as possible.

Item No. 16.

Grievances of forest villagers.

14. The Central Board of Forestry endorses the suggestion of the Government of India contained in item No. 16 (at page 59) of the agenda and explanatory notes of the Central Board of Forestry.

The Board is opposed to the eviction of villagers already settled by the Forest Department in the reserved forests without making alternative arrangements for their settlement elsewhere.

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Item No. 17.

Forestry Training in Education.

15. The Central Board of Forestry is of the view that another Officers' class should be opened at the Forest College, Dehra Dun, but the demands of the States should be so phased that there is a continuous flow of students into the College.

The Board feels that the question of continuous flow of the students in the College should be examined. The Board resolves that the States should be requested to supply suitable officers for the post of Instructors according to the quota fixed by the Government of India.

The Board agrees to the proposed change of the academic year from 1st April to 1st October and that the change may be effected from 1956.

The Board recommends that among the subjects of examination prescribed in rules 11 and 14 of the Admission Rules, "Geology" and "Mechanical Engineering" should be included.

The Board draws the attention of the States to the desirability of providing opportunities to selected officers to avail of the refresher course at Oxford.

Item No. 18.

Co-operative research on items of intrests to more than one State.

16. The Central Board of Forestry recommends—

The necessity of replicating in various zones experiments done by the State Silviculturists so far as particular species of importance to the States are concerned and recommends that the Silviculturists of those States and the Central Silviculturists should meet annually in rotation in the various States and discuss their common problems and draw up a concerted programme of work. The co-ordinating authority shall be the Central Silviculturists.

The Board also considered the question of the spike disease of sandal which concerns several States, in particular, Madras, Mysore and Coorg and recognizes the necessity of renewed research on this important question. It recommends that a properly staffed research centre should be set up at Bangalore which is in the heart of the spiked area, for intensive research along hitherto little explored lines, with a view to finding a solution to the problem of spike disease.

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APPENDIX II.

[*Vide* answer to starred question No. 2495 asked by Sri M. Narayana Kurup at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 26th September 1955, page 330 supra]

Statement.

Name of the district. (1)	*Name of the Deputy Registrar's Circle.* (2)	*Place where the rural bank has been started so far* (3)
Ootacamund	1 Ootacamund	Aravenu.
Madurai	2 Madurai	Otakadai.
	3 Dindigul	Chinnamanur.
Salem	4 Salem	Idapady.
	5 Dharmapuri	Arasampatti.
Coimbatore	6 Coimbatore	Thudiyalor.
	7 Erode	Kodumudi.
Tirunelveli	8 Tirunelveli	Melachaval.
	9 Tuticorin	Perungulam.
South Kanara	10 Mangalore	Kinnigoly.
South Arcot	11 Cuddalore	Kattumannarkoil.
	12 Tirukoilur	Tiruvennainallur.
Tiruchirappalli	13 Tiruchirappalli (North)	Turaiur.
Tanjore	14 Kumbakonam	Kuttalam.
Chingleput	15 Chingleput	Acharapakkam

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
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